

**JENNINGS COUNTY COUNCIL AND COMMISSIONER MEETING
MARCH 13, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

All members present.

The meeting was opened with Howard Malcomb leading the pledge to the flag.

Mike Kelley made a motion to approve prior minutes; Josh Yeager seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

First on the agenda was Sally Wood with the Jennings County Drug & Alcohol Task Force but Angie Donnell who is President of the program spoke to the Council. This year 7 grants were applied for; Domestic Violence, Jennings County Tobacco, Jennings County Sheriff Dept., North Vernon Police Department, Jennings County EMS, Southeastern Indiana Mental Health and Centerstone. The total amount requested was \$31,537 but they only approved \$20,000 and Jennings County EMS received no monies as their request was for Narcan which the Task Force was told could not be funded through them. The monies were awarded as follows: JCCDV \$5,550, JC Tobacco \$2,800, JC Sheriff Dept. \$3,250, NVPD \$3,250, SE IND. Mental Health \$2,575 and Centerstone \$2,575. Ms. Donnell asked the Council to approve the recommendations.

Mike Kelley made a motion to approve the monies for the Jennings County Drug & Alcohol Task Force; Dave Woodall seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Steve Wheeler as the Spencer Township Volunteer Fire Department Chief next addressed the Council. Chief Wheeler handed out a picture of their new Fire truck which is a 1994 Freightliner which includes a 500 gallon poly water tank, 500 GPM pump and breathing air cascade system. Chief Wheeler stated that there were things that needed repaired or replaced on the truck such as 4 new rear tires and the pump rebuilt and tested. Chief Wheeler also gave two lists out describing some essential rescue equipment needed for their department. One list was from High Tech Rescue, Inc out of Shelbyville, KY for \$71,727.36 and the other list was from Fire Service, Inc. out of St. John, IN for \$67,739.62. Chief Wheeler stated he was requesting the smaller amount of \$67,739.62 to be approved by the Council using the LOIT monies. Floyd Bowman, Trustee of Spencer Township sent a letter with Mr. Wheeler stating his support of this request. Chief Wheeler said that the Fire Department was most appreciative of the funds the Council has given to the department; with last year's monies 8 sets of turn out gear was purchased. Chief Wheeler told the Council that this equipment was much needed as sometimes they are first on the scene but have to wait for Rescue 20 to come with equipment. Chief Wheeler said that he believes that North Vernon and Vernon also have this equipment and Montgomery Twp stated they also had equipment. Chief Wheeler also said that they were applying for a 50/50 grant and if approved they would be using \$5,000 from the LOIT money for their match.

After much discussion, Tony Eder made a motion to approve the \$67,739.62 amount for equipment for the Spencer Township Fire Department; Dave Woodall seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 6 Y and 1 No vote.

Auditor Vance did say that she had been in touch with the State after Don Biehle brought in the statute and stated it did not mention the trustees as being part of the process. Ms. Vance said she talked with Lori Rogers and the State has taken a different view on disbursing to the fire departments and now the Counties may disburse directly to the fire departments. There will need to be a resolution stating specifically what amount each department receives.

Next on the agenda was Mary Houghland, Director of the Jennings Public Library, coming to the Council requesting permission to take \$45,000 from the Rainy Day Fund to renovate the Children's Department at the Library. Ms. Houghland said right now the Children feel they are on display and patrons feel as if they are intruding when a special program is being presented.

Dave Woodall made a motion to approve the request for \$45,000 from Rainy Day Fund for the Jennings Public Library; Tony Eder seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Next was Kathy Ertel, Executive Director of the Jennings County Economic Development Commission, with a request for tax abatement for Decatur Mold Tool and Die. Mrs. Ertel stated that this business is 51 years strong in the community and is looking to invest in a piece of equipment which is \$825,000. Decatur Mold is also adding two new jobs with the purchase of this equipment and the two salaries total \$135,000 so they are skilled paying jobs. Right now the total estimated salaries at Decatur Mold are \$7,500,000 for the county. Mrs. Ertel on behalf of the EDC is respectfully requesting 5 year tax abatement on this piece of equipment. Dave Woodall made the comment that he wished all the companies in the county gave back to the community like Decatur. Mrs. Ertel agreed and said that Decatur and other companies in the county are wonderful in stepping up to help educate our children by providing technical support to schools and getting school to work programs set up and actually going to the schools and talking about careers.

Josh Yeager made a motion to approve the 5 year tax abatement for Decatur Mold Tool & Die; Paul Belding seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Next was Dan Zuerner with Garmong Construction Services out of Terre Haute, Indiana. Mr. Zuerner stated he was here at the invitation of Matt Sporleder and Ellie Bright and that invitation came by a call from Barnes and Thornburg. Mr. Zuerner had two handouts for the Council and Commissioners; the first being a list of development tasks and considerations. Mr. Zuerner stated that there are areas that he would be able to help oversee and do for the County such as; Site Selection considerations, Design Considerations, Construction Considerations to enhance quality and reduce costs, Administrative

Considerations, Public Relations and Time Table. Mr. Zuerner stated that he has projects right now in process in Greene County and White County and he has several references that can be called. Mr. Zuerner stated that he would cap his costs for the upfront work at \$50,000 and then once the project started it would be a 3.5% fee. Mr. Zuerner passed out his second handout which was a bound report of projects his company had completed which included pictures. Mr. Zuerner thanked the County for the opportunity to present his company for consideration and if they wanted him to come back he would be more than happy to do that; as he feels that the work relationship would be good.

Next Auditor Vance asked that the Council consider the additional appropriations. The first additional was one that had been prepared in January for \$76,975.00 but was tabled to await budget approval. The next additional is for \$1,079,498 which includes the \$896,057.00 reduction to the General fund and moving to the LOIT fund. The appropriation ordinances will be printed into the minutes.

Larry Maschino made a motion to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$76,975.00; Tony Eder seconded the motion. Motion passed with a vote 6 Yes and 1 No.

Mike Kelley made a motion to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,079,498.00; Tony Eder seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Auditor Vance then presented the contract with GFC and Reuben Cummings for signature as the Council had already voted to hire the firm contingent on the County Attorney looking over the contract and approving which she did.

Next on the agenda was Sheriff Driver coming to the Council with the figures on the equipment needed for the two new cars that the Sheriff purchased out of his Commissary fund. The Sheriff stated that originally he told the Council he needed \$16,000 for each car; in the mean time a radio was taken out of an old vehicle and is usable so that reduced one total to \$13,000. The Sheriff asked that the LOIT monies be used for the \$29,000 needed for the equipment.


After much discussion, Mike Kelley made a motion to approve the \$29,000 for the equipment for the two new vehicles; Larry Maschino seconded the motion. Motion passed 5 Yes and 2 No.

John Post in attendance asked the Council if it was true that the County could go to the Legislators and asked to go above and beyond the tax limitation on LOIT. The response was Yes.

Dave Woodall made a motion to engage George K. Baum & Company as the Bond Underwriter; Tony Eder seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Josh Yeager made a motion to adjourn; Mike Kelley seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

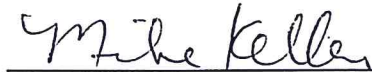
Attest:



Kay Sue Vance, Auditor




Howard Malcomb, President



Mike Kelley



Paul Belding

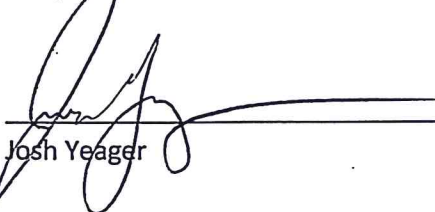


Dave Woodall

Tony Eder



Larry Meschino



Josh Yeager